agency nominated by Government to import edible oils for the Public Distribution System. The STC imported 1.49 lakh MT of RBD Palmolein for the PDS during April-October, 1995 out of authorised quantity of 1.50 lakh MTs of edible oils to be imported for PDS during the year. During 1996 the STC has been authorised to import 2.00 lakh MTs of RBD Palmolein for the PDS during February-October, 1996 out of which a quantity of about 24,000 MT has arrived in the month of February, 1996.

Details of port-wise arrival of edible oil (RBD Palmolein) imported by STC during April, 1995 to February, 1996 is indicated below:—

Port	Quantity (in MT)
Kandla	53,522
Bombay	41,645
Calcutta	27,302
Madras	8,356
Vizag	35,722
Mangalore	5,982

The information about edible oil imports by the NDDB and private parties under OGL is not available.

Export of Wheat by FCI

1075. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat exported to various countries by FCI during the last two years alongwith the rates;

(b) the details of wheat exported by STC and MMTC during the said periods and

(c) the proposed export of wheat during the next year by FCI?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No quantity of wheat has been exported by the FCI during the last two years.

(b) The details of wheat exported by MMTC and STC furnished below:—

	Year	Quantity in MT	Value (in crores Rs.)
MMTC	1994-95	-nil-	
	1995-96 (As on 6.3.96)	-nil-	
STC	1994-95	33,689	16.18
	1995-96 (As on 6.3.96)	-nil-	

(c) No duration has been taken regarding export of wheat during 1996-97 from Central Pool.

Exodus of Persons from Villages to Towns

1076. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether exodus of persons from villages to towns is increasing rapidly; and

(b) if so, steps taken by Government to ensure proper implementation of various poverty alleviation programmes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) While there is a continuous influx of people from villages to towns, there are no estimates of the number of persons migrating. However, some inference can be drawn from data available from the Census on the growth of population, in rural and urban areas which is given below:—

Period	Urban Growth Rate	Rural Growth Rate	Urban-Rural Growth Differential
1961-71	3.21	1.96	1.25
1971-81	3.83	1.78	2.05
1981-91	3.09	1.80	1.29

The above data show that while the rate of growth of rural population increased slightly between the decade 1971-81 and 1981-91, the urban growth rate declined significantly. This suggests that there was certainly no exodus of people from villages to towns.

(b) The Government in recent times is giving great emphasis on povery alleviation programmes in the rural areas as a means of supplementing the income of the rural poor to enable them to cross the poverty line on a sustained basis. The major poverty alleviation programmes being implemented in the rural areas are (i) The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP); (ii) The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY); and (iii) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS). While IRDP is a self employment programme, JRY and EAS are wage employment programmes. There has been an increase in the allocations made under these programmes in the last three years, the details of which are given in the table below. Furthermore, the operatinal strategy for these programmes is also being continuously reviewed and revised with a view to increasing their efficacy.

Financial Allocation under major poverty alleviation Scheme during 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96

(Rs. in crores)

Programme	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (Prov.)	1995-96 (Prov.)
	Total Allocation	Total Allocation	Total Allocation	Total Allocation
IRDP	662.22	1093.43	1098.22	1097.21
JRY	3169.05	3181.22	3498.72	4044.97
IJRY	—	878.20	878.20	500.00
EAS	—	548.77	1410.25	1252.01

Central Release+State matching share as on 8.2.1996.

Report of Sub-Committee Regarding Operation of PF and ESI Schemes

1077. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sub-committee appointed to look into the operation of Provident Fund and ESI Schemes has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, what are its recommendations and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee for the Ministry of labour recommended, inter-alia, for making non-payment of EPF/ESI dues a non-bailable offence, non-payment of employer's share criminal breach of trust, setting up of special police cells, speeding up the process of computerisation, strengthening of supervision in the exempted sector etc. The recommendations relating to setting up of special police cells, strengthening of supervision on the exempted establishments, computerisation etc. have been accepted and forwarded to concerned authorities for implementation. The remaining recommendations require further examination in consultation with other Ministries/Departments.